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Paper No. 22

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COPY MAILED

MAR 24 2005

In re Patent No. 5,598,947 :
Issue Date: February 4, 1997 :
Application No. 08/377,449 :
Filed: January 24, 1995 :
Patentee: Patrick Smith :

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

ON PETITION

REQUIREMENT FOR INFORMATION

A petition was filed on February 14, 2005 which is being treated as a petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c) to accept the delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

A decision on this petition will be held in abeyance for a period of **TWO MONTHS** from the date of this communication to permit petitioner to address the following issues before a decision is rendered. No extension of this two-month time limit can be granted under 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b).

This patent issued on February 4, 1997. Accordingly, the grace period for paying the second maintenance fee expired at midnight on February 4, 2005. Therefore, this petition was filed within twenty-four months after the six-month grace period provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e), this petition was timely filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.378(c).

Effective December 8, 2004, the fee for the 7 ½ years Patent Maintenance Fee increased to \$1150 and the surcharge fee remain at \$1640. Petitioner submitted \$1110 with the petition filed on February 14, 2005, which leaves a balance of \$1680.

The response to this Requirement for Information should include a cover letter entitled "Response to Requirement for Information."

At the end of the two month period specified above, a decision will be rendered on the instant petition under 37 CFR 1.378 as supplemented by any information submitted in response to this Requirement for Information.

In order to expedite reinstatement of this patent, petitioner may wish to consider submitting the reply to the requirement for information by facsimile transmission to the telephone number indicated below and to the attention of the undersigned.

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

By mail: Mail Stop PETITION
 Commissioner for Patents
 Post Office Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By hand: Customer Service Window
 Randolph Building
 401 Dulany Street
 Alexandria, VA 22314

By facsimile: (703) 872-9306
 ATTN: Office of Petitions

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272- 3210.


Irvin Dingle
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions
Office of the Deputy Commissioner
for Patent Examination Policy

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

"FEE ADDRESS" INDICATION FORM

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INSTRUCTIONS : Only an address associated with a Customer Number can be established as the fee address for maintenance fee purposes (hereafter, fee address). A fee address should be specified when the patentee would like correspondence related to maintenance fees to be mailed to a different address than the correspondence address for the application. If there is a Customer Number already associated with the fee address for the patent or allowed application, check the first box below and provide the Customer Number in the space provided. If there is no Customer Number associated with the fee address for the patent or allowed application, you must check the second box below and attach a Request for Customer Number form (PTO/SB/125). For more information on Customer Numbers, see the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) § 403.

Please recognize as the "Fee Address" under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.363 the address associated with:

Customer Number:

CFR 1.373(b)

OR

Request for Customer Number (PTO/SB/125) attached hereto

in the following listed application(s) for which the Issue Fee has been paid for patent(s).

PATENT NUMBER (if known)	APPLICATION NUMBER
5,598,947	

Completed by (check one):

Applicant/Inventor

Patrick Smith
Signature

Attorney or Agent of record _____
(Reg. No.)

Patrick Smith
Typed or printed name

Assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed.
(Form PTO/SB/96)

Requester's telephone number

Assignee recorded at Reel _____ Frame _____

Date

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

* Total of _____ forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.363. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 5 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop M Correspondence, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.